



BIENNIAL REPORT

—OF THE—

TRUSTEES AND SUPERINTENDENT

—OF THE—

INSTITUTION

—FOR THE—

INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND,

—TO THE—

LEGISLATURE OF MISSISSIPPI,

—FOR THE—

YEARS 1888 AND 1889.

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PRINTED BY AUTHORITY.
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JACKSON, MISS.:

K. H. HENRY, STATE PRINTER

1890.



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REPORT OF TRUSTEES.

To the Honorable Legislature of the State of Mississippi:

GENTLEMEN—You will herewith find report of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for the Blind for the year 1888-'89.

Our venerable Superintendent, Dr. W. S. Langley, died in the early part of the present term; whereupon Miss M. M. Langley was elected to that position, which she has filled with much credit to herself and satisfaction to the Board of Trustees up to late in December, 1889, when, in consequence of ill health, she tendered her resignation, which was accepted; whereupon Dr. Fairly was elected in her stead, who we find to be well suited to the position in every respect.

It will be seen that our appropriation for the Institute is exhausted, and some obligations not met—notably, that of \$333.60 balance on salary of our worthy late Superintendent, although the strictest economy has been exercised in the management of the Institute; hence we appeal to you earnestly to increase the appropriation for the next two years to an extent commensurate with its necessities.

I would also recommend that this appropriation be made in bulk so that it may be expended in such manner as to properly meet the demands of the institution as they arise from time to time. These demands cannot always be anticipated, and unless the Board of Trustees is clothed with authority to use the appropriation for the best interests of the institution, these interests may, and doubtless will be made, at times to suffer.

Some improvements are very much needed—a kitchen or cook room and a good substantial cooking range. Our cooking is now done in one of the basement rooms, greatly to the danger by fire of the entire building, besides the disagreeable odor produced throughout the house. A good stable is very greatly needed.

For further information as to the workings of the Institute your attention is called to the officers' reports.

Respectfully,

C. H. MANSHIP,
President Board of Trustees.

JACKSON, MISS., Dec. 31, 1889.

OFFICERS FOR 1888.

Gov. ROBERT LOWRY, EX-OFFICIO PRESIDENT.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

HON. C. H. MANSHIP, J. A. KAUSLER, Esq.,
H. H. HINES, Esq., JAMES R. YERGER, Esq.,
E. M. PARKER, Esq.

SUPERINTENDENT.

DR. W. S. LANGLEY.*

TEACHERS IN LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

MRS. M. D. DOTY, Miss M. L. LANGLEY.

TEACHER IN MUSIC.

MISS M. M. LANGLEY.

TEACHERS IN HANDICRAFT.

MISS R. SMITH, Mr. W. S. SKELLINGER,

MATRON.

MISS H. L. LANGLEY.

*Deceased.

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MATRON.

Miss H. L. LANGLEY.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, }
December, 1889. }

To the Trustees of the Mississippi Institution for the Instruction of the Blind :

GENTLEMEN—Presenting to you my First Biennial Report of this Institution, I take pleasure in stating the usual routine of work faithfully carried out in its various departments up to this time. The average attendance of pupils for the past two sessions has been sixty-five; an earnest endeavor has been made to increase the school and to induce pupils to attend at the beginning of the session, but they are coming in at all times during the term, rendering it very difficult to class them, and retarding advancement very materially in their studies. Quoting from a late Report of Dr. Rainey, the able Superintendent of the Texas School for the Blind, we see it stated, “The number of blind persons of school age in any State, in proportion to the population, is always less, much less than the number of deaf and dumb, or of insane persons. I have omitted the numbers “eight to twenty,” as the school age varies somewhat in the different States, and when we bear in mind that out of the total number of blind in the United States, only between three and four thousand are being educated in the different schools, it does not seem strange that so small a number in one State should be represented.” Many of our pupils are quite young, and some of them are here for their first session, and where not only the work done by them is new to them in the school-room, but all their surroundings are strange, it makes extra work for teachers and officers. To those who have never had the care or instruction of a blind child, no conception can be formed of the labor and patience involved in such an occupation, and it has only to be tried to be appreciated.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

In this department, two systems of raised print are studied: the Combined Line Print and the Wait, or New York system; the former is like our own lettering, except that it is raised, and the latter consists of so many dots for a letter

and somewhat resembles Telegraphy. Both systems are learned readily by the young pupils; the older pupils, however, often make better progress in the *Point*. We find a reason for this in the fact that the prints are more susceptible to the sense of touch than the *Line Print*, and where manual labor has been performed by the blind, as is frequently the case in some of the older pupils, the delicacy of touch is of course impaired to some extent. Writing is also done in the *Point System*, enabling the pupil not only to write his own letters, but to read them after they are written, which of course cannot be done by them when they write as we do; some very good writing is done by some of the pupils in our method also. All the usual branches are taught in this department that are pursued at an ordinary Grammar School, and it is the fault of the pupils if they do not acquire, while here, a good English education.

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

The progress of the pupils in this department has, on the whole, been satisfactory; a number of them, however, being beginners; the work here does not make much show at present. Lessons are given on the Piano and Cabinet Organ, and Voéal Musie, both in class, and to single pupils is also taught. At one time we had several pupils taking lessons on the Violin; these instruments we are anxious to renew, as the instrument is very suitable for the blind, and being much less expensive than a Piano or Organ, can be more easily purchased by them. In this department the Musical Print System is also taught. The Staff Notation is also used, being taught orally to quite a number of our pupils who are not yet sufficiently advanced to use the first system, and who are generally making good progress.

FEMALE HANDICRAFT.

Here we see the pupils at work on the sewing machine, sewing by hand, knitting, crocheting and bead work. Some who have a taste for the work of this department become quite skillful after sufficient practice, and much of their work will compare favorably with that done by those who are blessed with sight. For the last two sessions, no appropriation having been made for a teacher of bead work, the instruction in this department has been given by one of our older pupils, who has faithfully performed her duties therein receiving as a recompense only some small gifts at various times during the terms. I trust in the next appropriation some provision will be made for a salary to be paid to any one taking charge of this industry; as the sale of the various articles made brings something in, not only to the Insti-

tution, but to the pupils as well, who receive in money the value of their work after the cost of the material is paid.

SHOP.

Here the same routine of work is followed that has been usually pursued in this department. The manufacture of brooms and mattresses and chair seating occupy the boys from 2 o'clock to 5 in the afternoon, and this session a new industry has been introduced, the making of shuck mats, which so far has been found quite remunerative, as the material costs but little. Pupils who enter this department too old to accomplish much in the school room, often make good workmen here, and find in some of these trades a means of livelihood after leaving the Institution.

HEALTH.

The health of the household has been generally good. Last session, however, two severe cases of fever occurred, one of them developing into a severe form of typhoid, and ending fatally; and since our last report the Angel of Death has been three times in our midst. On the 8th of April, 1888, the beloved wife of the Superintendent entered into eternal rest. The purity and loveliness of her character made her dear to all who knew her, and though she has passed from us, her influence for good will ever be felt by those who love and revere her memory. In the following September the honored head of the Institution, after a lingering illness, was also taken from his earthly labors to his final reward. The first Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum in this place, and afterwards the principal of this Institution, he labored faithfully for the good and advancement of those intrusted to his care. For the young pupils he seemed to have a devoted attachment, and loved to gather them about him that he might talk to them, and listen in return to their artless conversation. One of his favorite pupils was the next one of our household to follow him to the Spirit Land. In Lida Burr we lost a pupil whose goodness made her universally beloved and whose bright and intelligent mind made her an ornament to the school.

REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

During the summer of 1888 our galleries were all nicely repainted, and this season a new and substantial flight of steps has been built to the north entrance of the building; new flooring has also been laid in the several bathing rooms used by the male pupils and their sitting room has also been plastered, though not hard finished, as this was not thought

necessary. The south furnace room has also been plastered and thus rendered much safer from fire. The last Legislature having made provision for furnishing this Institution with water, should the Water Works then in contemplation be established here, in the spring of this year the necessary work was begun, and now we have an abundant supply of pure and wholesome water which is a great improvement on the tanks on which we were obliged to depend before the introduction of the water works.

NEEDS OF THE INSTITUTION.

Two of our most pressing wants have been urged in a former report—the building of a kitchen without the Institution and a new stable. The room used for the former purpose is totally unsuitable, being very small and situated immediately below one of the schoolrooms, heating it up at meal times until it is not only uncomfortable, but unhealthy in warm weather, while the odor of cooking is almost continually perceived in the building. The stable is even worse than the kitchen, being an old building when it was taken for its present purpose, and furnishing a very insufficient shelter for the cattle from the cold of winter. The stove now in use is giving out, having been in constant use for the last twelve years. It is desired to replace it by a range, having a reservoir for hot water, as we have the necessary pipes laid in the building for hot water, but as yet have no means for heating it. At present all the warm water used for bathing and other purposes is carried by hand, making much labor for the servants.

In conclusion, I must express my sincere appreciation of the kindness and consideration ever shown me by you, gentlemen, and my thanks are due also the teachers for their hearty co-operation in all things pertaining to the good of the Institution.

Our pupils were again remembered at Christmas by that most excellent lady, Mrs. J. A. P. Campbell, each one receiving from her a suitable and useful present, and we desire to acknowledge also the following papers: *Clarion-Ledger*, *New Mississippian*, *Yazoo Herald*, *Vicksburg Herald*, *Goodsen Gazette* and *Boston Musical Record*.

Respectfully submitted.

MISS M. M. LANGLEY,
Superintendent.

PRODUCE OF INSTITUTE GARDEN FOR 1888-'89.

Sweet potatoes, 630 bushels.

Irish Potatoes, 250 bushels.

Other vegetables in proportion.

PRODUCE OF DAIRY.

Milk, 2,100 gallons.

Butter, 400 pounds.

POULTRY.

Chickens, 100.

Turkeys, 22.

STOCK SOLD IN 1888.

1 cow, \$15.00.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR 1888-'89.

NAMES.	COUNTY.
Jesse Adams.....	Winston.
Mattie Blaylock.....	Lafayette.
Julia Byrd.....	Perry.
Lida Burt.....	Lauderdale.
Napoleon Case.....	Lincoln.
Mary Crenshaw.....	Tallahatchie.
Ida Charles.....	Lee.
Virgil Cummings.....	Oktibbeha.
Booth Drane.....	Carroll.
Willie English.....	Lee.
Pinkie English.....	Lee.
Walter English.....	Lee.
Jeamic Edmonson.....	Perry.
Charlie Edmonson.....	Perry.
Carlena Freeman.....	Jefferson.
Leonard Furr.....	Marshall.
Walter Frankenbresh.....	Claiborne.
Zula Foster.....	Bolivar.
John Foster.....	Winston.
Ben Hickman.....	Lawrence.
James Harvey.....	Scott.
Mary Johnson.....	DeSoto.
Cora Johnson.....	DeSoto.
Andrew Kilpatrick.....	Warren.
Stephen Musselwhite.....	Yalobusha.
Harry Musselwhite.....	Carroll.
Zelda Myers.....	Noxubee.
Kitty Moore.....	Lafayette.
Alice Mayson.....	Bolivar.
Arnold Morris.....	Copiah.
Adah Price.....	Hinds.
Hugh Quarles.....	Scott.
James Reed.....	Webster.
Charlie Rubush.....	Lauderdale.
Nannie Rutherford.....	Tippah.
Mary Ritchey.....	Hinds.
Joseph Steele.....	Attala.
Henry Walne.....	Hinds.
Thomas Walne.....	Hinds.

FINANCE REPORT FOR 1888-'9.

1888.

To deficit fund for 1887.....		\$ 1,025 00
By disbursements.....	\$ 828 84	
By balance undrawn.....	196 16	1,025 00
To salaries and wages fund.....		\$ 3,750 00
By disbursements.....	\$ 3,706 31	
By balance undrawn.....	43 69	3,750 00
To Support Fund.....		\$ 3,400 00
By disbursements.....	3,399 87	
By balance undrawn.....	13	3,400 00
To repairs fund for 1888 and 1889...		\$ 1,475 00
By disbursements.....	\$ 1,057 61	
By balance carried forward to 1889..	417 39	1,475 00
To transportation fund.....		\$ 100 00
By disbursements.....	100 00	100 00

1889.

To salaries and wages fund.....		\$ 3,100 00
By disbursements.....	\$ 3,100 00	3,100 00
To support fund.....		\$ 3,400 00
By disbursements.....	\$ 3,400 00	3,400 00
To transportation fund.....		\$ 100 00
By disbursements.....	\$ 100 00	100 00
To repair fund brought from 1888...		\$ 417 39
By disbursements.....	\$ 417 39	417 39

NOTE—The disbursements are made by warrants drawn on the State Treasurer, who is ex-officio Treasurer of all State Institutions, and vouchers for the same are in the hands of the Secretary.

There are some outstanding debts amounting to about \$200.00 on Support Fund; \$198.00 on account of fire hose to be attached to the water hydrant in case of fire, and a balance of \$333.60 on the late Superintendent's salary.

GENERAL STATEMENT FOR 1888-9.

To appropriations for all purposes for the years 1888-9 (including the deficit fund for 1887 of \$1,025.00).	\$16,350 00
Amount brought from 1886-7.....	154 29

\$16,504 29

Less undrawn balance deficit fund for 1887.....	196 16	
Less undrawn balance, salaries and wages for 1888.....	43 69	
Less undrawn balance support fund for 1888.....	13	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 239 98	\$ 16,264 31

ITEMIZED STATEMENT FOR 1888-9, AND DEFICIT
FUND FOR 1887.

Bench for shop.....	\$ 2 00
Butter.....	186 08
Bran.....	138 88
Books.....	3 50
Brooms.....	11 50
Broom needles.....	2 00
Bacon.....	149 72
Blacking.....	1 11
Bluing.....	1 97
Beads.....	9 84
Cotton.....	1 00
Corn.....	5 29
Cotton seed meal.....	46 50
Cotton seed.....	38 60
Cow and calf.....	18 00
Chickens.....	6 00
Commutation.....	240 00
Carpenter's work.....	26 75
Crackers.....	28 44
Cheese.....	40 95
Candles.....	29 68
Confectionery.....	11 08
Car fare.....	1 00
Coffee.....	163 66
Coal.....	538 65
Clothing.....	362 05
Canned goods.....	5 15
Casting.....	1 50
Dentist.....	2 50
Drayage.....	25
Extra labor.....	122 80
Extracts.....	11 75
Eggs.....	32 28
Fruit.....	34 37
Funeral expenses of pupil.....	35 00

Freight, express and telegrams.....	11 75
Flour	379 06
Flour (brown).....	7 00
Grits	6 41
Gas and fixtures.....	315 16
Garden seed.....	18 90
Hams	207 01
Hay.....	28 67
House furnishing.....	209 13
Hardware.....	81 12
Hauling.....	4 20
Hose pipe.....	21 75
Harness.....	2 00
Insurance	138 88
Ice	2 60
Jelly	75
Lime	5 83
Lawn mower.....	8 75
Lard	330 06
Letter box.....	1 75
Lumber	30 68
Lye, (concentrated).....	6 95
Meat, (fresh).....	826 47
Macaroni.....	12 65
Meal	114 24
Molasses.....	146 47
Matches	1 45
Mustard	3 75
Music, instruments, etc	18 08
Manure.....	13 00
Magazine	3 50
Medicine	97 95
Medical attendance	80 00
Miscellaneous	15 00
Onions	1 50
Oysters.....	6 25
Oil.....	4 80
Oats	24 22
Potatoes.....	69 66
Painting and glazing.....	1 90
Peas	25 44
Pepper	2 45
Pickles	6 50
Powders, baking	93 30
Refrigerator	16 00
Rice	92 03
Rye.....	2 75
Repairs.....	1,324 53

Soap	60	90
Starch	19	14
Shoeing mule	1	25
Sugar	392	84
Spices	1	00
Soda		70
Stationery, stamps, etc	46	37
Ship stuff	5	00
Salt	7	50
Salaries	5,358	13
Twine		15
Transportation	234	73
Telephone	48	00
Tea	68	49
Tuning piano	3	00
Tacks		25
Umbrella	1	50
Vinegar	15	44
Wood	241	50
Ware (earthen)	22	10
Work (tin)	1	35
Wages	2,374	20
	<hr/>	
	\$ 16,035	69
Incidentals and wages for Jan. and Feb., 1890 ...	228	62
	<hr/>	
Total	\$ 16,264	31

